

SENIOR STAFF MEETING

AGENDA

Director's Conference Room
Second Floor
Administration Building

MONDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER 1955

Report on Building Situation

MR. GARRISON

Report on Budget Situation

MR. SAUNDERS

Exit Interviews

MR. KIRKPATRICK

STAFF CONFERENCE

Minutes of Meeting Held in Director's
Conference Room, 214 Administration Building,
Monday, 12 September 1955

General Cabell Presiding

Frank Wisner, Deputy Director for Plans
Col. L. K. White, Deputy Director for Support
Lyman Kirkpatrick, Inspector General
Harrison G. Reynolds, Director of Personnel
Col. Matthew Baird, Director of Training
[redacted] Assistant Director for Communications
[redacted] Assistant to the Director
[redacted] Assistant to the Director
[redacted] Special Support Assist. to the Deputy Director for Support
[redacted] Acting Assistant Director for Central Reference
[redacted] for Chief, CI Staff, DD/P 1.3 a(4)
George Aurell, Chief, Far East Division
[redacted] for Chief, Planning and Program Coord. Staff
[redacted] Chief, Western European Division
John Bross, Chief, Eastern Europe Division
George Carey, Assistant Director for Operations
Dr. Herbert Scoville, Assistant Director for Scientific Intelligence
Col. Sheffield Edwards, Director of Security
[redacted] Assist. Director for Basic Intelligence
[redacted] Auditor-in-Chief
James Garrison, Chief of Logistics
[redacted] Chief, Technical Services Staff
[redacted] Chief, Near East and Africa Division
Dr. Otto E. Guthe, Assistant Director for Research and Reports
Mr. Lawrence C. Houston, General Counsel
Dr. Sherman Kent, Assistant Director for National Estimates
Col. J. C. King, Chief, Western Hemisphere Division
[redacted] Deputy Director for Support
[redacted] Chief, Soviet Russia Division
[redacted] Management Officer,
Walter Pforzheimer, Legislative Counsel
Hugh Cunningham, Chief, Southeast Europe Division
Kermit Roosevelt, Asst. Dep. Director [redacted] 25X1
Edward R. Saunders, Comptroller
Huntington Sheldon, Assist. Director for Current Intelligence
[redacted] Chief, Foreign Intelligence Staff
Dr. John Titjen, Chief, Medical Staff
[redacted] Office of DD/I
[redacted] Deputy Director of Personnel

1. PUBLICITY REGARDING GENERAL TRUDEAU'S TRANSFER

General Cabell opened the meeting by observing that as a result of John O'Donnell's article stating that General Trudeau had been fired at the request of Mr. Dulles, there had been a great rash of publicity. He noted that many people in the Agency had been queried on the matter and there would probably be more questioning, both official and unofficial. General Cabell stated that he wished everyone in CIA to know that they can have confidence that this Agency has done nothing of which it should be ashamed. The Agency's official position is to merely make "no comment" in the face of these wild charges. Mr. Wisner remarked that "no comment" is frequently interpreted by the press as an admission. He stated that he therefore feels that we should be permitted to say that the reports are erroneous. General Cabell replied that he considers "no comment" to be more dignified and preferable in the face of charges such as these.

2. USE OF OTHER THAN NORMAL DISSEMINATION CHANNELS FOR CERTAIN TYPES OF REPORTS

Mr. Wisner pointed out that a recent incident demonstrated the need for special handling when we receive reports from a responsible official of another Government which he passes to someone he knows to be with CIA. In such cases the report from the other Government official may contain intelligence material which is accurate. However, it may also be slanted in a certain way or furnished because the other official has an "axe to grind". In situations such as this the reports should be brought to the attention of the top officials of the interested agencies rather than disseminated through normal channels. General Cabell supported Mr. Wisner's views remarking that in the recent case had we disseminated the information through normal channels it could have been badly misconstrued by the other Departments who might have considered it propaganda issued by CIA.

3. REPORT ON BUILDING SITUATION

1, 3(a)(4) [Mr. Garrison] reported that the firm of Clark and Rappano had been engaged to survey various sites and make recommendations from a technical point of view as to the most desirable building site. They have completed some preliminary work but the final report will not be available for another month or so. [Mr. Garrison] also noted that in preliminary planning for space in the new building it is beginning to appear that with the funds appropriated we will not be able to build a building with the necessary amount of space required. [Mr. Garrison] also noted that up to this point the executive agent for actual handling of the building has not been finally determined. It may be PBS, the Army Engineers, or CIA. [Mr. Garrison] stated that Mr. Abramowitz of the firm of Abramowitz and Harrison would be in Washington the following Friday for further discussions on the architectural aspects. It appears

likely that there will be two contracts with the architects - one classified and one unclassified.

4. REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL SITUATION

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[Mr. Saunders] gave a brief review of past financial history of the organization and made the following points which he wished the various officials present to bear in mind: (1) funds are appropriated and obligated for one year. However, the actual expenditures based upon these obligations may be paid out over a period of 3 years. Funds which are appropriated but unobligated during the appropriation year go to the Treasury for payment of old claims by the GAO. He noted that we have a special arrangements with the GAO for handling such old claims ourselves. (Mr. Saunders) stressed that it is necessary to look constantly at unliquidated obligations. He pointed out that they should be removed from the books when they aren't actually used due to changes in plans. Then they will be available for other obligations before the end of the appropriation year. [Mr. Saunders] noted that due to a depletion of our reserve by various large special projects it appears as if we will ask for an increase of [] in the 25X1 1957 Fiscal Year. Our budget has been the same for 1954, 1955 and 1956 and he remarked that with the Administration's desire to balance the budget in 1957 he is not sure what reception will be given our request for a [] increase. He noted that the Budget Bureau has been after us 25X1 constantly to cut down on overtime as much as possible. Mr. Wisner commented that he did not feel that the [] should be requested as an increase in our budget - rather it should be designated as a restoration of reserve. Mr. Saunders agreed and stated that it would be handled in this manner.]

5. EXIT INTERVIEWS

Mr. Kirkpatrick commented that in reviewing the Agency reports of separations he had noted that during the past month the number of unhappy people leaving the Agency was extremely high. The percentage expressing discontent in their exit interviews was so high that he wrote a letter to the three Deputy Directors suggesting that they personally review the exit interview reports and take steps to make changes in the conditions over which discontent had been expressed. Mr. Kirkpatrick noted that 10% of those leaving the Agency had been involuntary separations. He further noted that of the other 90% there were very few who were not recommended for reemployment. He stated that he found it hard to believe that virtually all of these 90% were excellent employees. Mr. Kirkpatrick expressed the desire to see that the supervisors are made to read and sign the exit interview reports on people who have worked under their supervision. He had observed that in many instances the supervisors merely have their secretaries sign off on these reports on their behalf. Mr. Kirkpatrick also suggested that he believed it would be worthwhile for the three Deputy Directors to personally read these reports each month. General Cabell noted that he always reads the exit interview reports and finds them interesting and sometimes helpful.

6. BRIEFING FOR UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE HERBERT HOOVER

General Cabell noted that Under Secretary Herbert Hoover is planning a wide swing through the Far East. Mr. Hoover has expressed a desire for thorough briefings from CIA in more than one session. General Cabell stated that we want to do our very best job in briefing Mr. Hoover. Mr. Wisner suggested that [redacted] should be charged with the responsibility for handling these briefings. General Cabell agreed, noting that Mr. Hoover will probably desire to have 95% of his briefings on the covert matters as he should look to the State Department for full political overt briefing. General Cabell noted that we will volunteer to help in any field we can. Mr. Kent concurred in this. 25X1